

# Council

## Standards Committee – Appointment of Parish Representative

19 April 2010

### Report of the Head of Legal and Democratic Services/Monitoring Officer

#### PURPOSE OF REPORT

To appoint a parish representative to the Standards Committee to fill a vacancy.

This report is public
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#### Recommendations

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The meeting is recommended:

- (1) To appoint David Carr to serve on the Standards Committee as Parish Representative to take effect following the parish elections 2010

#### Executive Summary

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##### Introduction

- 1.1 The Standards Committee currently has two parish representatives appointed to the Committee and two parish reserves. Bernard Lane will be stepping down as a parish councillor at the elections in 2010 and will be relinquishing his role as a parish representative on the committee

##### Proposals

- 1.2 The parish representatives carry out an extremely important role on the Standards Committee. The Standards Assessment Subcommittees are responsible for the initial assessment of all code of conduct complaints received by the Council. If the assessment subcommittee is considering a complaint relating to a parish council there must be a parish representative on the subcommittee. It is important to maintain this pool of trained parish representatives to attend subcommittee meetings especially as all complaints received in 2009/10 related to parish councils.
- 1.3 At the Standards Committee meeting held on 18 March 2010 the committee considered the membership of the committee and decided to recommend to

Council that David Carr is appointed as parish representative, Mr Carr is currently a parish reserve. The committee will seek to recruit a parish reserve to replace Mr Carr following the parish elections in 2010.

### **Key Issues for Consideration/Reasons for Decision and Options**

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- 3.1 The Standards Committee needs to maintain a certain number of parish representatives to assist in the local assessment of complaints.

The following options have been identified. The approach in the recommendations is believed to be the best way forward

**Option One** Agree the recommendations as set out.

**Option Two** Amend the recommendations.

### **Consultations**

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**Standards Committee** The appointment of David Carr has been recommended to Council by the Standards Committee who considered the committee membership at the meeting held on 18 March 2010

### **Implications**

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**Financial:** None  
Comments checked by Denise Westlake, Service Accountant, 01295 221982

**Legal:** The committee has a responsibility to comply with the Standards for England guidance on committee membership. It is necessary to maintain a certain level of parish representatives to ensure the committee can carry out the local assessment of complaints.  
Comments checked by Pam Wilkinson, Principal Solicitor 01295 221 688

**Risk Management:** The Council has a requirement to follow the Standards for England guidance relating to Standards Committee membership, failure to comply with the guidance could result in intervention by Standards for England which would be damaging to the Council's reputation.  
Comments checked by Rosemary Watts, Risk Management & Insurance Officer, 01295 221566

**Wards Affected**

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All

**Document Information**

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<b>Appendix No</b>	<b>Title</b>
Appendix	None
<b>Background Papers</b>	
Standards Committee Report – Committee Membership 18 March 2010	
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